



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Bryan *et al.*

Serial No. 09/808,898

Filed: March 15, 2001

For: *RENILLA RENIFORMIS FLUORESCENT  
PROTEINS AND THE USE THEREOF IN  
DIAGNOSTICS, HIGH THROUGHPUT  
SCREENING AND NOVELTY ITEMS*

Art Unit: Unassigned

Examiner: Unassigned

I hereby certify that this paper and the attached  
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05/23/01  
Date

*Kelly Fischer*  
Kelly Fischer

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination of the above-captioned patent application,  
please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows (a marked-up copy of the  
amended specification is attached to this Amendment):

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 8-24, with the following  
paragraph.

**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

Luminescence is a phenomenon in which energy is specifically channeled  
to a molecule to produce an excited state. Return to a lower energy state is  
accompanied by release of a photon (h $\nu$ ). Luminescence includes fluorescence,  
phosphorescence, chemiluminescence and bioluminescence. Bioluminescence is  
the process by which living organisms emit light that is visible to other  
organisms. Luminescence may be represented as follows:

